Palliative Care VS. Hospice Care

A Quick Reference Guide

What do palliative care and hospice care have in common?

* Both Palliative Care & Hospice Care are types of comfort care.
* The objective of both care programs is to reduce stress and offer complex symptom management related to patients' disease.
* Both Palliative Care & Hospice Care address physical and psychosocial relief

How do palliative care and hospice care differ from one another?

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| Palliative Care & Hospice Care | |
| What is Palliative Care | What is Hospice Care |
| * Palliative Care patients may seek and engage in curative treatments while in palliative care programs. | * Hospice Care patients may NOT seek or engage in curative treatments while in hospice care programs. |
| * Palliative Care patients may be admitted into palliative care programs at any time during their life at their physicians' discretion, regardless of the stage of illness. | * Hospice Care patients may only be admitted if a prognosis of six months or less has been given to the patient by two physicians that certify this prognosis. |
| * Palliative Care is supportive care with or without curative intent. | * Hospice Care is comfort care without curative intent. |
| * Palliative Care is paid for by insurance coverage or self-pay. | * Hospice Care is usually covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or most private insurances with all expenses paid in full that relate to the terminal diagnosis. |

